

U. S. Patent Application No. 10/717,859
Response to Advisory Action dated November 22, 2006

Conf. No. 9489
930007-2192

IN THE CLAIMS

Kindly amend the claims, without prejudice, without admission, without surrender of subject matter, and without any intention of creating any estoppel as to equivalents, as follows:

1 - 25. (Withdrawn)

26. (Currently Amended) A textile structure made in a manner comprising the steps of:
spiral winding machine direction (MD) yarns to form a system having a defined width;
and
depositing a pattern of cross machine direction (CD) elements onto said system of MD yarns; wherein said CD elements are formed while being deposited onto said system of MD yarns.

27. (Original) The textile structure claimed in claim 26, wherein the CD elements connect the MD yarns so to fix their position and stabilize the structure.

28. (Original) The textile structure claimed in claim 26, wherein the MD yarns are intermittently encapsulated by the CD elements along the length of the MD yarns.

29. (Original) The textile structure claimed in claim 26, wherein the CD elements extend the full width of said MD yarn system.

30. (Original) The textile structure claimed in claim 26, wherein the CD elements extend less than the full width of said MD yarn system.

31. (Original) The textile structure claimed in claim 26, wherein said CD elements are created on said MD yarn system by depositing a polymer resin orthogonally thereto on one or both surfaces thereof so to obtain a system of CD elements interlocking with the MD yarns.

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32. (Original) The textile structure claimed in claim 31, wherein the pattern created on the MD yarn system is varied by controlling said deposition of said polymer thereon.

33. (Original) The textile structure claimed in claim 32, wherein a speed of said deposition is controlled so as to adjust the amount of polymer on said MD yarn system.

34. (Original) The textile structure claimed in claim 31, wherein the polymer is delivered using one or more dispensers.

35. (Original) The textile structure claimed in claim 31, wherein the polymer is delivered to both surfaces of the MD yarn system so to join and bond the MD yarn system therebetween.

36. (Original) The textile structure claimed in claim 31, wherein the deposited polymer is curable by one of UV light or heat.

37. (Original) The textile structure claimed in claim 36, wherein the deposited polymer is subsequently cured to obtain a solid system of CD elements.

38. (Original) The textile structure claimed in claim 31, wherein the deposited polymer is molten polymer and is subsequently cooled to obtain a solid system of CD elements.

39. (Original) The textile structure claimed in claim 38, wherein the molten polymer is derived by melting monofilament used as feedstock.

40. (Original) The textile structure claimed in claim 26, wherein said CD elements are created on said MD yarn system by positioning CD monofilaments orthogonally thereto on one or both surfaces thereof; heating said CD monofilaments so they distort; and cooling said CD monofilaments to obtain a system of CD elements mechanically interlocking with the MD yarns.

41. (Original) The textile structure claimed in claim 40, wherein the CD monofilaments are positioned on both sides of the MD system so to join and bond said MD yarn system therebetween.

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42. (Original) The method of claim 40, wherein said CD monofilaments are a polymer able to be bondable whilst maintaining its functional strength.

43. (Previously Presented) The textile structure claimed in claim 42, wherein said polymer is one of MXD6 and poly-m-xylylene adipamide.

44. (Original) The textile structure claimed in claim 40, wherein said CD monofilaments are bicomponent monofilaments having a sheath and a core, and the sheath has a melting point lower than the core.

45. (Original) The textile structure claimed in claim 26, wherein the textile structure formed is machine seamable or endless.

46. (Original) The textile structure claimed in claim 26, wherein the textile structure formed is a forming, press, dryer, TAD, pulp forming, sludge filter, chemiwasher, or engineered fabric.

47. (Original) The textile structure claimed in claim 26, wherein the MD yarns are capable of being infinitely spaced apart or close together.

48. (Original) The textile structure claimed in claim 26, wherein the CD elements contribute to fabric stability and other functional characteristics such as permeability to air and/or water, structural void volume or caliper.

49. (Original) The textile structure claimed in claim 26, wherein materials used as the CD element are not readily extrudable.

50. (Original) The textile structure claimed in claim 26, wherein the CD elements acts as shuttle runners on a wear side of the structure, protecting the MD yarns.

51. (Original) The textile structure claimed in claim 26, wherein high abrasion resistant polymers are used as the CD element material.

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52. (Original) The textile structure claimed in claim 26, wherein a layer of batt is affixed to one or both sides of the structure.

53. (Original) The textile structure claimed in claim 26, wherein one or more nonwoven layers are laminated to the textile structure with or without batt.

54. (Original) The textile structure claimed in claim 26, wherein the textile structure is permeable.

55. (Original) The textile structure claimed in claim 26, wherein said textile structure has a smooth sheet contact side.

56. (Original) The textile structure claimed in claim 26, which includes a resin coating rendering said textile structure impermeable.